

Sunday, September 7, 2014 13th Pentecost



Journey through Matthew, Part II

930 North 4th Street ♦ Allentown, PA 18102 610-709-8800 ♦ info@mcclv.org ♦ www.mcclv.org

The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in Christ, changing lives and transforming the world

MCC LEHIGH VALLEY ORDER OF SERVICE

As you prepare for worship, take a few moments to reflect on the current state of your relationship with God. Is the communication channel completely open and free of any cross-traffic that might interfere with your ability to hear from God? What do you need to let go of, so that you may let God take control? Close your eyes, take a deep breath and let worship begin for you...

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Invitation to Ministry

A Time of Praise (3 Songs)

Prayer Preparation Song

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Children's Blessing

Financial Update

Message

Song of Response

Offering

Offering Song

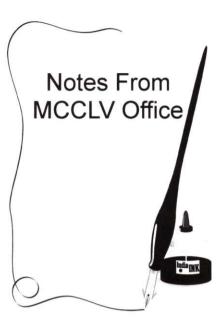
Communion

Communion Song

Prayer Over Gifts

Closing Song

Commission & Blessing



Administrative Assistant Paula Merkel Office Hours:

Monday: 8am-2pm Tues-Thurs: 8am-1pm Fri: 8am-12 noon

Looking for low-cost space for you birthday party or family celebration? Consider MCCLV's Fellowship Hall for your gathering! Contact Administrative

Assistant Paula Merkel at 610-709-8800 or e-mail office@mcclv.org for more information.

Sunday Bulletin & Announcements

The deadline for all bulletin notices & announcements is Wednesday at noon – email to office@mcclv.org

Space Reservation: Any individual or group wishing to schedule a meeting or event at the church **is required to fill out a space reservation form**. Write to office@mcclv.org more information.

Audio-Visual Support: Anyone planning an event at MCCLV is required to email avteam@mcclv.org at least 2 weeks in advance to arrange any needed AV support. The church may not be able to honor last minute requests.



MCCLV IS ON YOUTUBE!

To view and subscribe to our channel go to www.youtube.com and search MCC LV.

Early Morning Prayer -- Every Sunday at 8:00 AM -- MCCLV's Prayer Room

Prayer Develops Our Relationship with God.

If we never speak to our friends or never listen to anything they might have to say to us, our relationships will quickly deteriorate. It is the same way with God. Prayer - communicating with God helps us grow closer and more intimately connected with God.

Zechariah 13:9

I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure, just as gold and silver are refined and purified by fire. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'These are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.' (NLT)



Donations Of Fresh Produce Needed

Following worship service September 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th, MCCLV will be holding a Free Market for our neighbors. If you have extra produce from your garden, please consider donating it to the market.



Contact Barb Baus at barb.baus@mcclv.org or see her after worship for more details

MCCLV's Annual Free Market



Free Fruits and Vegetables

September 7, 14, 21 & 28 1:00pm—2:00pm (While Supplies Last)

This event is an outreach to MCCLV's Neighbors and Surrounding Community

Contact Barb Baus @ barb.baus@mcclv.org to donate, volunteer or for more info.



Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley 930 North 4th Street, First Floor, Allentown, PA 18102

Singspiration 2014

Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley 930 North 4th Street, First Floor, Allentown, PA 18102 610-709-8800 www.mcclv.org

"Singin' With the Saints" Free Concert

Saturday, September 27 @ 6:00pm



Hosted By:
MCCLV Music and Worship Director Brian Jones
and Dean Hiatt

Featuring:

Anthony Young & Unity of the Lehigh Valley Choir
Minister Cheryl Bragg
Mike Swartz and the Voices of Spirit
Wanda Brothers
Brian Jones and B.A.S.I.C.

For more info contact: Brian.jones@mcclv.org



FORGE West Leaders:
Scott George smgmcclv@gmail.com
Ron Smith rsmith.mcclv@gmail.com





FORGE South Leaders:
Loreli Bauer lorelibauer@aol.com
Elaine Ely pastor_elaine@yahoo.com





FORGE East Leaders:
Barb Baus
babaus@hotmail.com
Lauren Sheldon
laurenesheldon@gmail.com



FORGE A stronger relationship with Christ and one another—join a FORGE group!

A FORGE group **is not** a Bible study, Christian training session, group therapy, nor a doctrinal boot camp.

A FORGE group <u>is</u> a small, relational gathering of Christians, primarily focused on <u>transformation</u> and not information, where people learn how to interpret their entire lives through the lens of gospel and grow in faith in Christ.

Groups meet every other week for one hour—for worship, prayer, devotionals, testimonies and fellowship. Although groups are spread out geographically (South, East and West) to make them easier to get to, you may attend whichever group you choose, even if it is not the one nearest you.



^{***}Contact group leaders to learn more ***

MCCLV's Prayer Team

If you have an urgent prayer request, please email the Prayer Team at prayer.team@mcclv.org. Your prayer need will go out to over 70 people who are on MCCLV's Prayer Team. Also, if you'd like to be on this dedicated team, please let MCCLV know by emailing the Prayer Team.





The church has become aware that some of the folks receiving items from MCCLV's food pantry are also asking congregants for money outside our front door. You are urged **NOT** to give any funds to these people, but do refer them to Barb Baus, Ministry Coordinator for

Outreach and Justice, who can provide them with food cards as available and refer them to the appropriate social agencies to meet their needs.

If you obey and serve Him you shall spend your days in prosperity and your years in pleasures.

(Job 36:11)





SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2014 Doors Open Drawing Begins at 9 AM at 12 NOON

American Club of Coplay Pavilion 300 Cherry Street Coplay, PA 18037

TICKET PRICE: \$25.00 (non-refundable) includes Tailgate Party Luncheon

To pre-purchase tickets (space is limited)
Email: TrickyTrayMCCLV@gmail.com
or see a Tricky Tray Committee Member

Personal checks at the door require photo ID MasterCard and VISA accepted day of event Fabulous Prizes to Win!
Flat Screen LCD/HDTV
Lenovo Laptop
Microsoft Surface
eReader
Dyson Vacuum

776 787

Keurig Coffee Maker Blue Ray Player Children's Electronics Coach Purse Cookware

Lottery Ticket Trees

Fantastic Gift Cards! Cash Prizes! Door Prizes!

All proceeds raised will benefit the Communities and Missions served by:

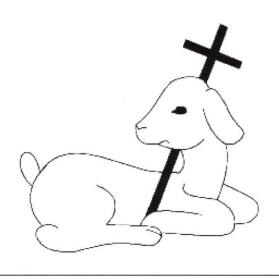
Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley

930 North 4th St., First Floor ~ Allentown, PA 18102 ~ 610-709-8800

The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in Christ, changing lives and transforming the world!

MCCLV Members Aim For 10%!

| Weekly Pledge Guidelines | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Weekly Income | 10% | 5% | 4% | 2% |
| \$200 | \$20 | \$10 | \$8 | \$4 |
| \$500 | \$50 | \$25 | \$20 | \$10 |
| \$750 | \$75 | \$37 | \$30 | \$15 |
| \$1,000 | \$100 | \$50 | \$40 | \$20 |
| \$1,500 | \$150 | \$75 | \$60 | \$30 |
| \$2,000 | \$200 | \$100 | \$80 | \$40 |



AV Team Needs You!

Do you enjoy techie things? Interested in how the technology at MCCLV comes together?

See Jeff Hayes or e-mail avteam@mcclv.org for more details.



MCCLV is collecting donations for food cards



2nd Sunday of the month after the worship service. Consider purchasing a gift card from Giant, Redners or Weis or making a donation to help those in great need of reducing their grocery store bills.

Policy & Procedure Committee

All strong organizations run smoothly with clear policies and procedures in place. Do you have a heart for ensuring the safety of the church's children? Do you believe in the benefits of Direct Dealing? Would you like to equip MCCLV with the proper tools to be the place God is calling the church to be?



Meets 4th Sundays
For more information, please see
Lauren Sheldon:
laurenesheldon@gmail.com or
Emma Marrero:

emma.marrero@kidspeace.org



Spiritual Drum Circle: Six Sunday Series

Six Sundays: Oct 12 & 26; Nov 9 & 30; Dec 14 & 18

Meeting in the MCCLV Sanctuary from 1:30-2:30pm. Join us for a relaxed, fun exploration of spirit through group drumming hosted by Raea.

Nurture the connection between you and Spirit, others and your higher self. But be warned: exposure to drumming may cause sudden outbursts of joy, happiness, energy, creativity, awareness and spontaneous healing!

No experience is necessary. If you have a drum or percussion instrument, please bring it. Some instruments will be available to share. Have questions? Join us at an informational session on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at 12:15 or contact Barb at barb.baus@mcclv.org

September is "Special Welcome Month" at MCCLV

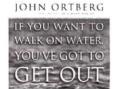
All are encouraged to bring a friend to Church so they too may experience the energy of MCCLV's worship and the fellowship of our radically inclusive Christian community in the Lehigh Valley. Summer is ending and Fall begins bringing a new season to our lives on September 22, 2014 at 10:29 P.M. EDT.



MCCLV's Sunday School begins, Sunday, September 14, 2014. What a perfect time to introduce your friends to MCCLV.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Robby Schotter had to step down as MCCLV's Spiritual Formation Coordinator due to expanding job requirements. Consequently, the Adult Spiritual Forums he was to lead beginning September 14 will be replaced beginning with a six week study of John Ortberg's book -- If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat.



"Far too many of us have put our faith in a casual Christianity that never compels us to leave our comfort zones. But, deep within our hearts we know that Christ has not called us to comfort, but to an exciting, sacrificial and overwhelmingly fulfilling faith. In this book, John Ortberg teaches us how

to step out of the "boat" of casual Christianity so we can faithfully follow the Lord who is calling us out onto the risky, exciting waters of the high seas."

Participants are encouraged to purchase the book on Amazon for \$9.68 or the electronic version for \$9.20. Pre reading is not essential, but you will get more out of the study if you get the book and read ahead.

Mark Your Calendar!

Give thanks Open House Loreli Bauer's home Saturday, November 1, 2014

Details to follow

Help Out MCCLV's Pastor



Do you enjoy reading novels in a variety of genres? Your help is needed! Pastor Elizabeth Goudy will have a rough draft of her book prepared following her sabbatical months August-September, 2014. A group is needed to read through the manuscript in October, 2014. This is a short-term activity but will require a high level of commitment and focus. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, contact rev.goudy@mcclv.org. Also if you have experience with the publishing industry or using a literary agent, email the Pastor.

Children's Sunday School

MCCLV is excited to announce the official "kick off "of the 2014-2015 Sunday School year! The Sunday school year will officially launch on **Sunday**, **September 14**, **2014**. If you have, or know of, school age children (within the age range from Kindergarten to Sixth Grade) who would benefit from this essential, spiritually formative ministry of the church please consider enrolling them. MCCLV's team of talented teachers are excited and feel privileged to provide the church's children with life forming, positive spiritual experiences! Classes begin at 9:00am every Sunday morning at MCCLV.



For more information please contact children's ministry coordinator **Sue Carpenter at sue.carpenter@voya.com**.

DEALING WITH THE PAIN OF A LOSS?

Loss and grief are part of life, but can be difficult to process alone. MCCLV is hosting Elaine Ely, a trained, experienced and certified specialist in the areas of end-of-life issues, loss and grief.

Her current hours at the church are:

Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm
(other hours can be arranged upon request).

For a single consultation or on-going counseling, reach her at elaine.ely.pastor@gmail.com or 215-915-4370.

Also, watch for details on an up-coming workshop: "Facing Grief - Yours and Other's", and a 6 week support group series to be offered this fall.

Are you in need of individual prayer?



MCCLV's Prayer Room is reserved every Sunday after Worship for intercessory prayer. See Loreli Bauer who will arrange a deacon to pray with you.

You may also email Loreli: lorelibauer@aol.com

Congregational Care

Are you in need of care -- a sister or brother in Christ to pray with you, visit you in the hospital or your home, listen to your spiritual needs? MCCLV is here to help you through life's challenges. Please contact Karl Steiner at karl.steiner@mcclv.org.



Quote Of The Day

Believe in yourself and all that you are.
Know that there is something inside you that
is greater than any obstacle.
(Christian D. Larson)



MCCLV'S COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Open every Sunday at 12:00-1:00 PM to serve the community. The pantry is in need of donation. Drop off your items in front of the pantry door. Thank you!

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

Cheryl Wenhold and Ashley Richard are the new co-chairpersons of MCCLV's Fellowship Ministry! Praise God for their willingness to share their time, talent and treasure in this important leadership role. Cheryl and Ashley will be assessing



all aspects of fellowship at MCCLV and developing a Fellowship Plan for the rest of 2014 and 2015. If you have any ideas or would like to help with fellowship events, please see Ashley or Cheryl following worship.



"The aim of God in history is the creation of an all-inclusive community of loving persons, with Himself included in that community as its prime sustainer and most glorious inhabitant." (Dallas Willard)

WELD at MCCLV!

Interesting in making a membership commitment with Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh



Valley? Participants in MCCLV's WELD church membership process become more closely welded to God and to one another. WELD is a four-part series that is required for new members and is open to anyone wanting more information about the church. There will be an informational session on 6Sunday, October 5 following Sunday morning worship. WELD classes take place on October 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 7:00pm. Experience connection with God and brothers and sisters in Christ through MCCLV's WELD.

For more information see Emma Marrero or e-mail her at autleaves@aol.com

Stewardship Team Meets 4th Sunday of Month

MCCLV's Stewardship Team meets the 4th Sunday of the

month at 9:00am. Come to these great gatherings and help plan things like the church's annual pledge drive. All are welcome to participate.

Contact Jim Harbst at jim.harbst@icloud.com for more information.



Coverages During Pastor's Sabbatical

MCCLV Pastor Elizabeth Goudy is on Sabbatical during the months of August & September, 2014 (and January, 2015).

Below is a listing of coverages:

Serving as Ministry Coordinator Meetings Facilitator:

Brian Jones (brian.jones@mcclv.org)

Serving as Board Moderator:

Emma Marrero (autleaves@aol.com)

Serving as Church-Share Point Person:

Emma Marrero (autleaves@aol.com)

Serving as Staff Meeting Facilitator:

Brian Jones (brian.jones@mcclv.org)

Serving as Preachers:

Rev. Jen Glass, Randy D'Angelo, Robert Schotter

Serving as Main Worship Leader:

Karl Steiner (karl.steiner@mcclv.org)

Serving as Care Coordinator

(hospitalizations, home visits, etc.): Karl Steiner (karl.steiner@mcclv.org)

Serving as Weddings & Funerals Officiant:

Rev. Elaine Ely (pastor_elaine@yahoo.com)

Serving as Bulletin Editor:

Lauren Sheldon (laurenesheldon@gmail.com)

Serving as e-Listserve Editor:

Barb Colvin (bjc7500@yahoo.com)



Want to Grow in Wisdom and Knowledge?

Make a six night commitment this coming Autumn that will transform your life! Join in a six-part Adult Bible Study, meeting Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Get an in-depth look at six important New Testament letters and be forever

changed!

October 15: Galatians October 22: Ephesians October 29: Philippians

November 5: Colossians

November 12: 1 Thessalonians November 19: 2 Thessalonians



MCCLV IS ON FACEBOOK!

Search MCC Lehigh Valley. All MCCLV related posts and tags will be approved through the office. Thank you for your cooperation!

Word Alive Ministry

WORD ALIVE (formerly, the Worship Arts Ministry) will be meeting on Sunday, September 21, 2014 at 12:15pm for those who are currently involved and those who are

interested in becoming a part of this creative ministry of bringing the Scriptures to life.

If you are interested, please contact Dean Hiatt in person



10 Reasons For Sunday School (Children & Youth Spiritual Formation)

While sleeping late can be nice, have you considered the benefits of Sunday School attendance for your child? MCCLV offers Spiritual Formation for Children & Youth at 9:00am Sundays starting September 14.

Here are 10 reasons to make it a priority in your family:

- **1. Age Targeted Teaching**: Where else can your kids receive spiritual instruction that's focused toward their developmental abilities?
- 2. **Friends**: In Children & Youth Spiritual Formation, your child will build positive friendships with their peers by discovering God's Word together.
- 3. **It's Fun**: Sunday School is not Disneyland, but MCCLV's teachers do work hard to teach spiritual values in ways that are relevant and fun for kids.
- 4. **Spiritual Mentors**: A dedicated teacher can be a Christian role model who supports you and helps inspire the faith of your child.
- 5. Foundational Bible Learning: The curriculum is designed to give a broad view of scripture, so children and youth will have a solid Biblical foundation.
- Praying Teachers: MCCLV's teachers consistently pray for your child's faith to grow. Coming to Children & Youth Spiritual Formation gives another occasion for God to answer those requests.
- 7. **Big Reward For a Small Investment**: If you're already coming to church, just come a little earlier. That one change will equal over 800 hours of additional Christian teaching before your child graduates from High School!
- Send the Right Message: Making Children & Youth Spiritual Formation a priority shows your kids that God's Word really does matter more than pillow-time.
- 9. Adult Spiritual Formation: While the children enjoy their class, you can learn with other adults in your own Adult Spiritual Formation class (also at 9:00am).
- 10. You'll Be On Time: Families who come to Children, Youth & Adult Spiritual Formation always get to worship on time. It's the easiest way to avoid being late.



Fundraising Committee Meetings

The Fundraising Committee meets following worship on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Questions, please talk to Sue Carpenter or-email sue.carpenter@voya.com





Work Sundays?
Not a "morning person"?
Want more options with worship?
Don't want to go anywhere or do
anything on a Sunday?

Coming February 21, 2015 @ MCCLV
Weekly Saturday Evening
5:15pm Worship Service



UPCOMING WORSHIP AT MCCLV

14th Pentecost: September 14, 2014 @ 10:30am

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

Preaching: Rev. Jen Glass

Sermon Title: "Journey Through Matthew, Part III"

15th Pentecost: September 21, 2014 @ 10:30am

Scripture Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

Preaching: Rev. Jen Glass

Sermon Title: "Journey Through Matthew, Part IV"

16th Pentecost: September 28, 2014@10:30am

Scripture Reading: Psalm 100 Preaching; Rev. Jen Glass

Sermon Title: "Sing Praises to God"

17th Pentecost: October 5, 2014 @ 10:30am

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy Sermon Title: "Harvest Gratitude"

18th Pentecost: October 12, 2014 @ 10:30am

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy

Sermon Title: "Harvest Reconciliation"

19th Pentecost: October 19, 2014 @ 10:30am

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy Sermon Title: "Harvest Generosity"

Today's Scripture Reading:

Matthew 18:15-20

'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church: and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Creator in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

MCCLV's Weekly 2014 Budgeted for Giving is \$3,916.98

| Date | Attendance | Giving |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| 9/07/2014 | 72 | \$2,212.55 |
| 8/24/2014 | 84 | \$4,860.55 |
| 8/17/2014 | 73 | \$1,942.66 |
| 8/10/2014 | 83 | \$1,508.06 |

Full financial reporting is provided at the Board meeting on the 2nd Sunday of every month. All are welcome to attend. Additionally, reports may be viewed in the Board binder in the Library.

MCCLV MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Congregational Care & Health:

Karl Steiner | karl.steiner@mcclv.org

20s30s Young Men's Group, G.I.F.T. Young Women's Group, MCCLV Retirees, HIV Support, Drumming Circle, Fellowship, Visitor Team, Prayer Team, Reconciliation & Affirmation, Grief Counseling & Deacon Care

Spiritual Formation:

See Rev. Goudy for more information

FORGE Groups, Adult Spiritual Formation and Children & Youth Spiritual Formation

Outreach & Justice:

Barb Baus | barb.baus@mcclv.org

Evangelism, Free Market, Silent Witness, Food Pantry and Helping Hands Ministry

Media & Marketing:

See Rev. Goudy for more information

Communications and Marketing Ministry

Denominational Representatives:

Lay Delegates Hope Hilby and Normana Schaaf

MCCLV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sue Carpenter, Jim Harbst, Diana LaTorre, Emma Marrero, Lauren Sheldon and Ron Smith If you would like an item included on the Board agenda see any Board Member

MCCLV DEACONS

Loreli Bauer, Maricel Concepcion, Clarence Freed, Hope Hilby, Jessica Mitchell, Normana Schaaf, Karl Steiner and Carol Stevens

MCCLV STAFF

Pastor: Elizabeth Goudy | rev.goudy@mcclv.org

Music and Worship Director: Brian Jones | brian.jones@mcclv.org

Administrative Assistant: Paula Merkel | office@mcclv.org